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EQUAL SCHOOL RIGHTS MEETING, AMONG THE COLORED CITIZENS.

The untiring friends of this growing reform assembled at the Belknap street Church on Monday evening, Aug. 5th. The Chairman briefly stated the objects of the meeting, and congratulated parents upon the success thus far resulting from their union and perseverance, but warning them to be sagacious and watchful with regard to the machinations of our opponents, without and within.

Benjamin F. Roberts submitted a report of facts bearing upon the present aspect of the equal school rights question; and also presented the forms of petitions which are now in active circulation throughout the State. He gratified the meeting with a reference to the names and favorable expressions of prominent signers in various parts of the State. Other speakers followed, confirming his report by their experience and observation.

Information was imparted to the meeting, that owing to some disagreement between the teachers of the Smith School, an effort had been put forth by one of them to obtain an expression of opinion from the people, in denial of the statement said to have been made by the principal, that the unpopularity of the assistant was *the* obstacle to a general attendance of scholars.

Several who had their names affixed to said paper were willing enough to deny that the presence of certain teachers, or of any isolated features of said school, were the grounds of their opposition (when, indeed, it is the *entire system* they regard as a *malum in se*); these signers were now sorry to find, that said paper was now likely to be used for a purpose not intended by them; and they therefore wished it to be distinctly understood, that their object was merely to correct a misstatement, and not in the least degree as affecting their oft-repeated and unflinching determination against said exclusive school.

Boston, August 12, 1850.

William C. Nell, for the Committee, submitted the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the papers recently circulated for signatures of colored citizens of Boston, discriminating between the degrees of popularity of certain teachers in the Smith School, as reasons *for* or *against* sending our children to said school, is regarded by us as a measure suicidal to the cause (now as dear as ever to our hearts) of equal school rights.

Resolved, That the dictates of common sense, and a due appreciation of our rights as citizens, imperatively demand of us a strict neutrality, a non-intervention policy with regard to any difference existing or said to exist, among the Smith School Teachers. Our motto has been, now is, and ever shall be, No fellowship with the exclusive school system, its teachers or supporters.

In support of the petitions, report and resolutions, remarks were offered by John T. Hilton, Henry L. W. Thacker, Benjamin F. Roberts, Wm. C. Nell, Henry Weeden, Robert Morris, William Brown, Robert Johnson, Mrs. A. B. Gardner, and others, all of whom concurred in an expression of the first-named speaker, that, setting aside, for the sake of the cause, all preferences or dislikes for individuals connected with the exclusive school, consistency required of us to let 'Babel have its own confusion.'

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted, together with an order that the funds remaining in the treasury be appropriated for furnishing petitions and diffusing information throughout the State in aid of the equal school rights movement.

At a late hour, the meeting adjourned, subject to a call of the Committee.

EDWARD B. LAWTON, *Chairman.*

WILLIAM C. NELL, }
DANIEL LAING, JR. } *Secretaries.*

Robt. Morris Esq.

Brazer's Building

27 ~~State~~ st.

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